

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5 and 10 as set forth below.

Pease add claims 22-45 as set forth below.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A lifting device in a recreational vehicle comprising:
a frame;
an acme screw rotatably secured to said frame;
a primary acme nut threaded onto said acme screw; and
a bracket assemblage slidably disposed on said frame; said bracket assemblage sized and shaped so as to support and constrain rotation of said primary acme nut thereby requiring said bracket assemblage to slide when said acme screw is rotated;
said bracket assemblage having a payload flange for supporting a bed; ~~payload intended for lifting~~ said bracket assemblage movable between a first user-accessible position and a second storage position.
2. (Withdrawn) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising a secondary acme nut threaded onto said acme screw, said secondary acme nut positioned relative to said primary acme nut so as to support said payload in the event of failure of said primary acme nut.
3. (Withdrawn) The lifting device of claim 2, wherein said secondary acme nut is located below said primary acme nut.
4. (Withdrawn) The lifting device of claim 2, wherein said secondary acme nut is located above said primary acme nut.

5. (Currently Amended) The lifting device of claim 1, wherein said first user-accessible position is proximal to a floor of said vehicle and said second storage position is adjacent a ceiling of said vehicle ~~said payload is a bed~~.
6. (Withdrawn) The lifting device of claim 1, wherein said payload is a fifth wheel trailer.
7. (Original) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising indicia of failure of said primary acme nut.
8. (Original) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising a hand crank coupled to said acme screw.
9. (Original) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising an electric motor coupled to said acme screw.
10. (Currently Amended) A linear actuation system for use ~~with~~ in a recreational vehicle comprising:
- at least one acme screw rotatably fixed to a framework in said vehicle;
 - a support system mounted on said framework and slidable along said at least one acme screw;
 - an acme nut engaged with threads on said at least one acme screw, said at least one acme screw rotatably confined and supported on said support system; and,
 - a payload coupled to said support system; said payload comprising a mattress;
 - wherein said support system moves said payload between a first height accessible to a user and a second height inaccessible to a user.
11. (Original) A linear actuation system according to claim 10, wherein said system includes two acme screws.

12. (Withdrawn) A linear actuation system according to claim 10, further comprising a failsafe support system disposed on said framework so as to hold said payload in the event of failure of said acme nut.

13. (Withdrawn) A linear actuation system according to claim 12, wherein said failsafe support system includes a second acme nut positioned on said at least one acme screw so as to support said payload in the event of failure of said acme nut.

14. (Original) A linear actuation system according to claim 10, further comprising a visual indicator indicating a failure mode of said actuation system.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of lifting a payload in a recreational vehicle comprising:
providing a payload support bracket on a framework in said vehicle;
causing linear movement of said payload support bracket up and down said framework solely by rotational movement of a screw mounted substantially along the length of an actuation region of said framework; and,
holding said screw linearly stationary during its rotational movement.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, wherein said linear movement is caused by providing a nut on said payload support bracket and by engaging said nut with said screw and by holding said nut rotationally stationary during the rotation of said screw.

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, further comprising viewing failure indicia associated with said framework so as to determine whether the causation of linear movement has failed.

18. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, further comprising preventing failure of said payload support bracket by providing a secondary support system on aid framework.

19. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 18, wherein providing a secondary support system includes providing a primary nut for causing linear movement of said payload support bracket and a second nut for supporting said payload support bracket in the event said primary nut fails.

20. (Original) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising an elongated flexible support secured to said frame and said payload flange of said bracket assemblage.

21. (Withdrawn) The lifting device of claim 1, further comprising a safety latch, said safety latch positioned and configured to provide additional support to said payload.

22. (New) A recreational vehicle comprising:

a cargo area used to receive an off-road vehicle;

a door used as a ramp to move the off-road vehicle into and/or out of the cargo area;

an upper bed positioned over a lower bed, the upper bed and the lower bed being movable vertically and at least substantially translationally between a first configuration where the upper bed and the lower bed are spaced apart in the cargo area to receive one or more persons to sleep thereon and a second configuration where the upper bed and the lower bed are stowed adjacent to a ceiling of the recreational vehicle; and a motor used to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration;

wherein the upper bed is unsupported by the lower bed in the first configuration; and wherein the lower bed is part of a lower bed assembly which is used to vertically move the upper bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

23. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 wherein the position of the upper bed in the first configuration may be adjusted vertically.

24. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 wherein the recreational vehicle is a travel trailer or a fifth wheel.

25. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 wherein the upper bed and the lower bed are queen size or larger.

26. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 comprising

a first wall; and

a second wall positioned opposite the first wall;

wherein at least one of the upper bed or the lower bed is supported at least in part by the first wall and the second wall in the first configuration.

27. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 26 comprising a first pair of lifting assemblies coupled to the first wall of the recreational vehicle; and a second pair of lifting assemblies coupled to the second wall of the recreational vehicle; wherein the first pair of lifting assemblies and the second pair of lifting assemblies are used to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

28. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 26 comprising

a first rigid support member including an engaging portion, the first rigid support member being coupled to the first wall;

a second rigid support member including an engaging portion, the second rigid support member being coupled to the second wall; and

a first gear and a second gear which mesh with the engaging portion of the first rigid support member and the engaging portion of the second rigid support member, respectively, to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

29. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 26 wherein the lower bed is movable between a first orientation where the lower bed is at least substantially flat and used for sleeping and a second orientation where the lower bed includes a seat back and is used for seating.

30. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 26 wherein the recreational vehicle is a travel trailer or a fifth wheel.

31. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 26 wherein the upper bed and the lower bed are queen size or larger.

32. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 comprising a first pair of lifting assemblies coupled to the recreational vehicle; and a second pair of lifting assemblies coupled to the recreational vehicle; wherein the first pair of lifting assemblies and the second pair of lifting assemblies are used to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

33. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 32 wherein each of the lifting assemblies from the first pair of lifting assemblies and the second pair of lifting assemblies includes a rigid support member coupled to the recreational vehicle and a gear which meshes with an engaging portion of the rigid support member to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

34. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 32 wherein the lower bed is movable between a first orientation where the lower bed is at least substantially flat and used for sleeping and a second orientation where the lower bed includes a seat back and is used for seating.

35. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 32 wherein movement of the first pair of lifting assemblies is synchronized with movement of the second pair of lifting assemblies using a rigid drive member.

36. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 32 wherein the recreational vehicle is a travel trailer or a fifth wheel.

37. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 32 wherein the upper bed and the lower bed are queen size or larger.

38. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 comprising a rigid support member; and a gear; wherein the gear meshes with an engaging portion of the rigid support member to move the upper bed and the lower bed between the first configuration and the second configuration.

39. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 38 wherein the lower bed is movable between a first orientation where the lower bed is at least substantially flat and used for sleeping and a second orientation where the lower bed includes a seat back and is used for seating.

40. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 38 wherein the recreational vehicle is a travel trailer or a fifth wheel.

41. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 38 wherein the upper bed and the lower bed are queen size or larger.

42. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 wherein the lower bed is movable between a first orientation where the lower bed is at least substantially flat and used for sleeping and a second orientation where the lower bed includes a seat back and is used for seating.

43. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 42 wherein the recreational vehicle is a travel trailer or a fifth wheel.

44. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 42 wherein the upper bed and the lower bed are queen size or larger.

45. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 22 wherein the recreational vehicle is a snowmobile trailer.